

LEAVERS FROM SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES OR OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AUGUST 1977

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Michael Salloom Canberra 526507 or our State Office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616
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MAIN FEATURES

- Over one third (36.3 per cent) of all civilians aged 15 to 25 years attended an educational institution full time in 1976.
- Of these, 23.8 per cent did not return to full-time education in 1977.
- 96.1 per cent of these leavers were in the labour force in August 1977. Of those in the labour force six out of seven (84.9 per cent) were employed — nearly all full time — and one in seven (15.1 per cent) was unemployed.
- 98.0 per cent of leavers employed in August 1977 were wage or salary earners. Their average weekly earnings were: school leavers \$85, leavers from other educational institutions \$143.
- More than one quarter (26.4 per cent) of persons who left secondary school in 1976 studied full time at a post-school educational institution in 1977.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

In August 1977 a survey, based on the quarterly population survey sample, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain information about persons aged 15 to 25 years who had attended full time at a school, university or other educational institution at some time during 1976. Separate information was obtained in respect of persons who had returned to full time education in 1977 and those who had not returned to full time education (described in this publication as *leavers*). Similar surveys were conducted in February of each year from 1964 to 1974 and in May 1975 and 1976. Results from some earlier surveys are shown in Table 7. However, see paragraph 6 regarding the comparability of results.

2. The survey was based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) and covered about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information was obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being carried out during a four-week period.

Scope

3. The estimates in this publication relate to all persons aged 15 to 25 years, except members of the permanent defence forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. Persons who were patients in hospitals and sanatoria or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., and for whom, for the purpose of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling, and persons reported as permanently unable to work were not asked the survey questions. An estimate of the total number of such persons is shown in Table 1.

Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person was assigned depended on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as *survey week*, which was the week immediately preceding that in which the interview took place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in *The Labour Force* (6203.0).

5. For this survey, *leavers from schools, universities or other educational institutions* were defined as persons who had not attended an educational institution full time at any time in 1977 but who had completed or withdrawn from a course they were attending full time at an educational institution in 1976. *Non-leavers* were defined as persons who had attended an educational institution full time in 1977 and who had done so in 1976.

Discontinuity of series

6. Caution should be exercised in comparing the results of the August 1977 survey with those of previous surveys because:

- some persons who would have been 14 years of age if the survey had been conducted in February or May (as in previous years), and consequently out of scope of the survey, had reached 15 years of age by August 1977 and were therefore included.
- the scope of the August 1977 survey was extended to include persons aged 25 years.
- for the August 1977 survey the definition of *non leavers* was changed to include all persons who had attended an educational institution full time at some time in 1977 and not only those who were attending full time at the time of the survey.

- (iv) before 1975, surveys were conducted in February, i.e. generally before the start of the academic year for tertiary courses, and information was, of necessity, partly a reflection of expectations.
- (v) for surveys conducted in 1971 and earlier years trainee teachers (enrolled at Colleges of Advanced Education and in some cases also at other institutions) were classified as in the labour force but for later years have been included in the category "attended an educational institution full time in the previous year". It is estimated that in August 1971 there were about 7,000 males and 17,000 females who were reclassified in population surveys as not in the labour force.

Reliability of the estimates

7. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the information had been obtained from occupants of all dwellings. An indication of the likely differences is given in the Technical Note, page 8. See also paragraph 6 of the Technical Note regarding non-sampling errors.

Related publications

8. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

- . *The Labour Force* (6203.0)
- . *Persons not in the Labour Force* (6219.0)
- . *Labour Force Experience* (6206.0)
- . *Persons Looking for Work* (6222.0)
- . *Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution)* (6310.0)

An up-to-date list of population survey reports is given in *The Labour Force*.

Publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications 1977* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- * Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses.
- .. Not applicable.

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

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Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. PERSONS AGED 15 TO 25 YEARS IN AUGUST 1977 : FULL TIME ATTENDANCE OR NON-ATTENDANCE AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN 1976 AND 1977

Attended an educational institution full time in 1976 (a)									
Educational institution attended full time in 1976	Non-leavers (b)					Total ('000)	Did not attend an educational institution full time in 1976 (a) ('000)	In hospitals, etc. (c) ('000)	Total persons aged 15 to 25 years ('000)
	Leavers ('000)	Institution attended full time at some time in 1977			Per cent of total				
		School ('000)	Other ('000)	Total ('000)					
MALES									
School	88.1	267.7	24.9	292.6	76.9	380.7	..	..	380.7
Other	29.9	*	75.1	75.8	71.7	105.8	..	..	105.8
Total	118.1	268.4	100.0	368.4	75.7	486.5	828.3	15.2	1,330.0
FEMALES									
School	69.3	262.1	31.6	293.7	80.9	363.0	..	..	363.0
Other	39.5	*	65.4	65.6	62.4	105.1	..	..	105.1
Total	108.9	262.3	97.0	359.3	76.7	468.1	827.0	7.3	1,302.4
PERSONS									
School	157.5	529.7	56.5	586.3	78.8	743.7	..	..	743.7
Other	69.5	*	140.5	141.4	67.1	210.9	..	..	210.9
Total	226.9	530.7	197.0	727.7	76.2	954.6	1,655.2	22.6	2,632.4

(a) Excludes some patients in hospitals and sanatoria and some inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., at the time of the survey, and persons permanently unable to work, who were not asked the survey questions. (b) For definition see page 1, paragraph 5. (c) Estimated numbers of persons for whom the hospital, sanatorium, gaol, reformatory, etc., was regarded as their dwelling and persons who were reported as permanently unable to work. Particulars of attendance at schools, etc., were not obtained in respect of such persons.

* Less than 4,000. See page 8, paragraph 5.

TABLE 2. PERSONS AGED 15 TO 25 YEARS IN AUGUST 1977 (a) : TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDED FULL TIME IN 1976, AGE AND BIRTHPLACE ('000)

	Males			Females			Persons		
	Aged 15 to 19 years	Aged 20 to 25 years	Total	Aged 15 to 19 years	Aged 20 to 25 years	Total	Aged 15 to 19 years	Aged 20 to 25 years	Total
BORN IN AUSTRALIA									
Attended an educational institution full time in 1976	356.2	65.1	421.2	348.0	53.9	401.9	704.1	119.0	823.1
School	328.5	*	329.4	311.6	*	312.9	640.1	*	642.3
Other	27.7	64.1	91.8	36.3	52.6	89.0	64.0	116.8	180.8
Did not attend full time in 1976	190.8	496.5	687.2	181.9	496.9	678.8	372.7	993.4	1,366.1
Total	546.9	561.5	1,108.5	529.9	550.8	1,080.7	1,076.8	1,112.4	2,189.2
BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA									
Attended an educational institution full time in 1976	52.4	12.9	65.3	56.6	9.7	66.2	109.0	22.6	131.5
School	49.7	*	51.3	49.5	*	50.1	99.2	*	101.4
Other	*	11.3	14.0	7.1	9.1	16.1	9.8	20.3	30.1
Did not attend full time in 1976	31.8	109.2	141.0	30.5	117.6	148.1	62.3	226.9	289.1
Total	84.2	122.1	206.3	87.1	127.3	214.4	171.3	249.4	420.7

(a) See note (a) to Table 1.

* Less than 4,000. See page 8, paragraph 5.

TABLE 3. LEAVERS (a) : EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND BIRTHPLACE, AUGUST 1977

	Employment status				Total leavers		Total	
	Employed (b) (^{'000})	Unemployed (^{'000})	Total in the labour force (^{'000})	Not in the labour force (^{'000})	Aged 15-19 years (^{'000})	Aged 20-25 years (^{'000})	Number (^{'000})	Participation rate (c) (per cent)
MALES								
New South Wales	27.9	6.2	34.1	*	27.7	7.6	35.3	96.6
Victoria	28.4	*	31.3	*	24.5	7.0	31.5	99.3
Queensland	17.0	3.6	20.6	*	17.8	3.0	20.7	99.3
South Australia	10.4	*	12.3	*	10.4	*	12.6	97.4
Western Australia	10.2	*	11.4	*	9.4	2.4	11.9	96.0
Tasmania	3.1	*	3.5	*	3.3	*	3.5	98.2
Australian Capital Territory	*	*	1.6	*	*	*	1.6	100.0
<i>Australia (d)</i>	98.6	16.9	115.5	*	94.9	23.1	118.1	97.8
Born in Australia	88.2	14.6	102.8	*	84.8	20.3	105.1	97.8
Born outside Australia	10.4	*	12.7	*	10.2	*	13.0	97.7
FEMALES								
New South Wales	26.5	6.0	32.5	*	25.5	8.8	34.3	94.5
Victoria	25.0	*	28.3	*	23.3	7.0	30.3	93.5
Queensland	14.0	*	16.9	*	14.8	3.0	17.7	95.1
South Australia	9.6	*	11.1	*	9.2	*	11.5	96.5
Western Australia	7.4	*	8.6	*	7.5	*	9.4	91.7
Tasmania	2.5	*	3.3	*	2.7	*	3.3	98.3
<i>Australia (e)</i>	86.7	16.0	102.7	6.2	85.0	23.8	108.9	94.3
Born in Australia	73.9	13.0	86.9	5.0	72.1	19.9	91.9	94.6
Born outside Australia	12.8	*	15.8	*	13.0	4.0	17.0	93.0
PERSONS								
New South Wales	54.3	12.2	66.6	*	53.2	16.4	69.7	95.6
Victoria	53.5	6.2	59.6	*	47.8	14.0	61.8	96.5
Queensland	31.0	6.4	37.5	*	32.5	6.0	38.5	97.3
South Australia	20.0	3.4	23.3	*	19.6	4.5	24.1	97.0
Western Australia	17.6	2.4	20.0	*	17.0	4.3	21.3	94.1
Tasmania	5.5	*	6.8	*	5.9	*	6.9	98.2
Australian Capital Territory	2.4	*	3.3	*	2.5	*	3.3	100.0
<i>Australia (d)</i>	185.3	32.9	218.2	8.8	180.0	47.0	226.9	96.1
Born in Australia	162.1	27.6	189.7	7.3	156.8	40.1	197.0	96.3
Born outside Australia	23.2	5.3	28.5	*	23.1	6.8	30.0	95.0

(a) For definition see page 1, paragraph 5. See also note (a) to Table 1. (b) Includes wage and salary earners, employers, self-employed persons and unpaid family helpers. (c) Leavers in the labour force as a percentage of total leavers. (d) Includes the Northern Territory. (e) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes. See page 8, paragraph 5.

TABLE 4. EMPLOYED LEAVERS (a) : INDUSTRY, AUGUST 1977
(⁰⁰⁰)

<i>Industry division</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	7.5	*	8.5
Manufacturing	26.7	8.8	35.5
Construction	11.2	*	12.3
Wholesale and retail trade	23.0	22.2	45.1
Transport, storage and communication	*	*	5.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	8.1	14.5	22.5
Community services (b)	9.1	25.2	34.3
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	*	7.1	10.3
Other (c)	6.2	5.1	11.3
Total	98.6	86.7	185.3
Full-time workers	94.4	80.9	175.3
Part-time workers	4.2	5.8	10.0

(a) For definitions see page 1, paragraph 5. See also note (a) to Table 1. Includes wage and salary earners, employers, self-employed persons and unpaid family helpers. (b) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (c) Comprises mining; electricity, gas and water; and public administration and defence.

* Less than 4,000. See page 8, paragraph 5.

TABLE 5. EMPLOYED LEAVERS (a) : OCCUPATION, AUGUST 1977
(⁰⁰⁰)

<i>Occupation group</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Professional and technical	14.6	22.1	36.7
Administrative, executive, managerial and clerical	13.4	36.3	49.7
Sales	7.2	12.3	19.5
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	8.3	*	9.2
Transport and communication	*	*	*
Tradesmen, production-process workers, labourers (n.e.c.) and miners, etc.	50.0	5.8	55.8
Service, sport and recreation	*	8.6	11.9
Total	98.6	86.7	185.3

(a) For definitions see page 1, paragraph 5. See also note (a) to Table 1. Includes wage and salary earners, employers, self-employed persons and unpaid family helpers.

* Less than 4,000. See page 8, paragraph 5.

TABLE 6. LEAVERS (a) WHO WERE EMPLOYEES: TYPE OF INSTITUTION ATTENDED
FULL TIME IN 1976, AGE AND WEEKLY EARNINGS (b), AUGUST 1977

<i>Institution attended full time in 1976</i>								
<i>School</i>			<i>Other</i>			<i>Total</i>		
<i>Aged 15-19 years</i>	<i>Total</i>		<i>Aged 15-19 years</i>	<i>Aged 20-25 years</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Aged 15-19 years</i>	<i>Aged 20-25 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
MALES								
<i>Weekly earnings (b) (\$)</i>			<i>- '000 -</i>					
Under 60	12.1	12.1	*	*	*	12.4	*	12.9
60 and under 80	24.1	24.1	*	*	*	24.7	*	25.0
80 " " 100	17.3	17.3	*	*	*	18.4	*	19.4
100 " " 120	8.9	8.9	*	*	*	11.0	*	11.8
120 " " 150	4.0	4.0	*	4.1	5.8	5.7	4.1	9.8
150 " " 180	*	*	*	4.4	5.0	*	4.5	7.7
180 " " 220	*	*	*	6.9	6.9	*	6.9	7.4
Total (c)	69.5	69.7	6.6	19.1	25.6	76.1	19.2	95.3
<i>- dollars -</i>								
Mean earnings	84	84	115	164	151	87	163	102
FEMALES								
<i>Weekly earnings (b) (\$)</i>			<i>- '000 -</i>					
Under 60	6.7	6.8	*	*	*	7.9	*	9.0
60 and under 80	18.7	18.7	*	*	4.3	22.0	*	23.0
80 " " 100	14.9	14.9	5.3	*	5.5	20.2	*	20.4
100 " " 120	6.4	6.4	*	*	*	9.3	*	10.4
120 " " 150	4.2	4.9	*	4.5	5.3	4.1	4.7	8.8
150 " " 180	*	*	*	4.0	4.3	*	4.5	5.6
180 " " 220	*	*	*	6.5	6.5	*	6.5	6.6
Total (c)	51.5	52.3	13.7	20.3	34.0	65.2	21.1	86.3
<i>- dollars -</i>								
Mean earnings	84	85	87	170	137	85	169	105
PERSONS								
<i>Weekly earnings (b) (\$)</i>			<i>- '000 -</i>					
Under 60	18.8	18.9	*	*	*	20.3	*	21.8
60 and under 80	42.8	42.8	4.0	4.3	5.2	46.8	4.3	48.0
80 " " 100	32.2	32.2	6.5	4.3	7.6	38.7	4.3	39.8
100 " " 120	15.3	15.3	4.9	4.3	6.8	20.2	4.3	22.1
120 " " 150	7.4	7.6	*	8.6	11.0	9.8	8.8	18.6
150 " " 180	4.2	4.0	*	8.4	9.2	4.3	8.9	13.3
180 " " 220	*	*	*	13.4	13.4	*	13.4	14.1
Total (c)	121.0	122.0	20.3	39.4	59.6	141.3	40.3	181.6
<i>- dollars -</i>								
Mean earnings	84	85	96	167	143	86	166	104

(a) For definition see page 1, paragraph 5. See also note (a) to Table 1. (b) Weekly earnings refers to gross weekly wages and salaries (i.e. before taxation and other deductions were made) in main job. For persons paid other than weekly, earnings were converted to a weekly equivalent. (c) Includes a small number of persons whose weekly earnings were \$220 or more.

* Less than 4,000. See page 8, paragraph 5.

TABLE 7. PERSONS AGED 15 TO 24 YEARS (a) : FULL-TIME ATTENDANCE OR NON-ATTENDANCE
AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, 1972 TO 1976

	<i>Attended an educational institution full time in the previous year (b)</i>				<i>Did not attend an educational institution full time in the previous year (b)</i> (<i>'000</i>)	<i>In hospitals, etc. (d)</i> (<i>'000</i>)	<i>Total persons aged 15 to 24 years (<i>'000</i>)</i>
	<i>Leavers (c)</i> (<i>'000</i>)	<i>Non-leavers (c)</i>		<i>Total</i> (<i>'000</i>)			
		(<i>'000</i>)	<i>Per cent of total</i>				
MALES							
Feb. -1972	101.2	262.8	72.2	364.0	744.6	11.6	1,120.1
1973	114.8	281.0	71.0	395.9	719.2	15.6	1,130.7
1974	119.4	283.3	70.3	402.7	722.7	12.1	1,137.5
May -1975	123.1	316.0	72.0	439.2	726.0	12.5	1,177.7
1976	137.1	316.8	69.8	453.9	729.2	13.4	1,196.4
FEMALES							
Feb. -1972	92.0	225.4	71.0	317.3	774.1	7.0	1,098.4
1973	103.7	245.2	70.3	348.9	750.2	8.3	1,107.3
1974	109.9	246.9	69.2	356.8	753.7	*	1,114.3
May -1975	115.3	283.6	71.1	398.9	748.0	4.3	1,151.2
1976	120.1	292.3	70.9	412.4	745.9	4.3	1,162.5
PERSONS							
Feb. -1972	193.1	488.2	71.7	681.3	1,518.7	18.6	2,218.5
1973	218.5	526.2	70.7	744.7	1,469.4	23.9	2,238.0
1974	229.4	530.2	69.8	759.6	1,476.5	15.8	2,251.8
May -1975	238.4	599.6	71.5	838.1	1,474.0	16.8	2,328.9
1976	257.2	609.0	70.3	866.3	1,475.0	17.6	2,358.9

(a) At the time of the survey. (b) Excludes some patients in hospitals and sanatoria and some inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., at the time of the survey, and persons permanently unable to work, who were not asked the survey questions. (c) For definition see page 1, paragraph 5. (d) Estimated numbers of persons for whom the hospital, sanatorium, gaol, reformatory, etc., was regarded as their dwelling and persons who were reported as permanently unable to work. Particulars of attendance at schools, etc., were not obtained in respect of such persons.

* Less than 4,000. See page 8, paragraph 5.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the quarterly population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the information had been obtained from occupants of all dwellings. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included in the survey. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. A table of standard errors for general application is given below. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of quarterly labour force surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate. An example of the use of the table is as follows: if an estimate for Australia obtained from the sample is 100,000, the standard error is 3 per

cent of the estimate i.e. 3,000; there are then about two chances in three that the true figure is within the range 97,000 to 103,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this figure is between 94,000 and 106,000.

4. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the per cent standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerator can be obtained from the table below.

5. As the standard errors in the table below show *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this bulletin, estimates less than the lowest levels shown in the table below have not been included. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

6. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia	
									Number	per cent of estimate
1,500						250	300	300		
2,000					400	250	350	350		
2,500				500	450	250	400	400		
3,000			600	500	450	300	400	450		
4,000	900	900	700	500	500	300	450	550	800	20.0
5,000	1,000	1,000	750	550	550	350	500	600	900	18.0
10,000	1,300	1,300	900	800	700	400	650	800	1,200	12.0
20,000	1,600	1,600	1,200	1,100	1,000	400	900	1,050	1,600	8.0
50,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	500	1,300	1,500	2,300	4.6
100,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	600		2,000	3,000	3.0
200,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	2,000	2,000				4,000	2.0
500,000	5,000	5,000	3,500	3,200	3,000				6,000	1.2
1,000,000	8,000	8,000							8,000	0.8
2,000,000									10,000	0.5

— Estimates below the levels indicated have not been published — see paragraph 5 above.